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| a central tooth-like process. Cephalic lobe distinct | <i>obscurus</i> (Bl.). |
| 2. Tibia of palp above with a single, short, sharp process pointing outward. Cephalic lobe distinct | <i>elegans</i> (Cb.). |
| 3. Tibia of palp above with a rather long, sinuous, sharp-pointed process. Head-region only slightly elevated | <i>læsus</i> (L. K.), =
<i>interjectus</i> , Cb. |
| II. Head-region not elevated; no impressions behind lateral eyes. | |
| 1. Clypeus strongly conical | <i>silus</i> (Cb.). |
| 2. Clypeus vertical; tibia of palp above with a very short, straight, sharp-pointed process | <i>curtus</i> (Simon). |

XXIV.—*An undescribed Type of Rusine Deer.*

By R. LYDEKKER.

IN my work 'The Deer of All Lands' a brief notice *, together with a photograph, was given of three peculiar male Rusine deer at that time living in the collection of the Duke of Bedford at Woburn Abbey. They were of small size—a little larger than a hog-deer—and agreed in general character with the members of the Sambar group, although differing from all named forms by the complexity of the antlers. No name was given to these deer, on account of the possibility of their proving to be abnormalities or hybrids, or even the adult of *Cervus culionensis*. No definite information is available with regard to their place of origin, although it is very probable that they came from the Philippines.

One of the three specimens has since died and been presented by the Duke and Duchess of Bedford to the British Museum, where its skin is now mounted. A closer examination is now practicable than was the case during life, and as the result of this I feel justified in describing the mounted specimen as the type of a new species of Rusine deer, since it appears different from any named form, and there seems little probability that its peculiar characters are due either to abnormality or to hybridism.

As mounted, the specimen stands 30 inches in height at the withers. In general form, and especially in the large size of the face-glands, it agrees with the Rusine group (subgenus *Rusa*). From all the various races of the sambar (*Cervus*

* Page 171, fig. 45.

unicolor) it differs by the hairs being completely annulated with black and yellow, as it also does by the form of the antlers and their comparative slight degree of rugosity. These appendages are primarily of the three-branched Rusine type, with the inner or hinder tine of the terminal fork forming the continuation of the beam, and longer than the outer or front tine. The tail, too, is thinner and less bushy than in the sambar.

In all these three respects—namely, the annulated hair, the general form and slight rugosity of the antlers, and the relatively thin tail—the specimen agrees with the *rusa* (*C. hippelaphus*). It is, however, very considerably smaller than either of the three local races of the latter, from which it also differs by the complexity of the antlers. And here it may be mentioned that at the time of its death the animal was apparently bearing its third pair of antlers, those with which it was figured in 'The Deer of All Lands' having been shed and replaced; it is therefore approximately adult.

As regards their special characters, the antlers are more or less flattened throughout and display a marked tendency to palmation. This brow-tine is much flattened, with a sharp posterior edge, and on the right side is distinctly bifurcate, although only imperfectly so on the left. The outer tine of the terminal fork is likewise much flattened, sharp-edged behind, and trifurcate, but the inner tine on the right side is conical and simple, although showing a tendency to branch on the left side. The number of points on each antler is thus six.

The species may be shortly defined as allied to *C. hippelaphus*, but much smaller (30 inches at the shoulder), with flattened and somewhat palmated antlers, which, when fully developed, show at least six points on each side. This species I propose to call *Cervus (Rusa) tavistocki*, the mounted example in the British Museum being the type. In giving this name I must take the risk of the Woburn deer being identical with one of the numerous forms from the Philipines which have been described by Heude as species*.

I may take this opportunity of mentioning that specimens now at Woburn seem to indicate the identity of *Cervus Luedorfi*, Bolau (1880), with *C. xanthopygus*, Milne-Edwards (1867). When this year's antlers are shed the point can be definitely decided.

* See 'Deer of All Lands,' pp. 186, 187.